

Message Text

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S E C R E T USNATO 6455

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: WG PAPER ON AIR MANPOWER AND COMMON CEILING

REF: USNATO 6323

1. WG DEVOTED NOVEMBER 19 MEETING TO BRIEF PAPER (REFTEL) ON INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN COMMON CIELING WITHOUT REQUIRED REDUCTIONS. WG ALSO TOOK UP ADDITIONAL PAPER ON MILITARY/ TECHNICAL IMPLICATIONS OF VARIOUS OPTIONS ON SUB-CEILINGS WHICH STAFF GROUP PREPARED AT REQUEST OF UK, CANADIAN, TURKISH, GREEK AND NETHERLANDS REPS.
2. U.S. REP (MCCORMACK) URGED WG TO COMPLETE PROMPTLY PRE-LIMINARY PAPER WITH FINDING THAT AIR MANPOWER CAN BE INCLUDED IN COMMON CEILING WITHOUT PREJUDICING QUESTIONS OF REDUCTIONS OR SUB-CEILINGS. SPC WOULD BE CONSIDERING GUIDANCE TO AD HOC GROUP ON THIS ISSUE AND GUIDANCE SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED BECAUSE WG HAD NOT COMPLETED ANALYSIS. WG COULD THEN TAKE MORE SECRET

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TIME TO EXAMINE IMPLICATIONS WITH REGARD TO SUB-CEILINGS IF SOME REPS WISHED TO CONSIDER THIS ISSUE IN MORE DETAIL.

3. UK REP (GEHRATY) TABLED AMENDMENTS CALLING FOR EXAMINATION

OF MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF FORMULATIONS ON SUB-CEILINGS BEFORE ALLIES TAKE ANY DECISION ON COMMON CEILING ISSUE. UK AND SOME OTHER REPS ARGUED THAT EVEN THOUGH PROBE U.S. PROPOSED WOULD NOT PREJUDICE SUB-CEILING ISSUE, ALLIES SHOULD UNDERSTAND IMPLICATIONS OF OPTIONS THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IF AIR MANPOWER WERE INCLUDED IN COMMON CEILING. NETHERLANDS REP (BENTINCK) STRONGLY SUPPORTED PREPARATION OF ONE COMPREHENSIVE PAPER ON THIS ISSUE AND NOTED THERE WAS SOME INTEREST IN THE HAGUE IN COVERING AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II BY NON-INCREASE RATHER THAN BY COMMON CEILING. TURKISH REP (GUR) DISCUSSED AT LENGTH IMPLICATIONS FOR FLANKS AND APPREHENSION THAT IF AIR MANPOWER IS LIMITED IN PHASE II POSSIBLE FUTURE BUILD-UP OF SOVIET AIR FORCES COULD NOT BE BALANCED BY BUILD-UP OF ALLIED AIR FORCE IN CENTRAL EUROPE. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) FELT PAPER REPORTED REFTEL WAS TOO BRIEF AND CURSORY IN TREATMENT OF COMMON CEILING AND SAID IT SHOULD BE EXPANDED. FRG REP (DZIALAS) OFFERED FEW MINOR AMENDMENTS TO REFTEL PAPER.

4. AFTER WG REVIEWED BOTH PAPERS, ACTING CHAIRMAN (SMITH) PROPOSED STAFF GROUP REDRAFT THEM AND, FOR THE TIME BEING, KEEP TWO PAPERS SEPARATE SINCE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE AT NEXT WG MEETING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON PRELIMINARY PAPER FOR SPC. NETHERLANDS AND TURKISH REPS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR COMBINING TWO PAPERS.

5. COMMENT: CURRENT DRAFTS OF PAPERS DISCUSSED ABOVE ARE IN FLUX AND WILL BE REWORKED DURING NEXT WG MEETING NOVEMBER 26. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR EARLY REPORT TO SPC DESIGNED TO FACILITATE GUIDANCE TO AHG ON PROBE REGARDING AIR MANPOWER AND COMMON CEILING. WG CHAIRMAN AND STAFF HAVE COOPERATED IN DEVELOPING BRIEF PAPER THAT WOULD MEET THIS OBJECTIVE WHILE PROVIDING SEPARATE DETAILED ANALYSIS TO SATISFY OTHER WG REPS. HOWEVER, INSTRUCTIONS OF SOME WG MEMBERS TO EXPAND FIRST PAPER OR COMBINE TWO PAPERS MAY DELAY REPORT TO SPC. MCAULIFFE

SECRET

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